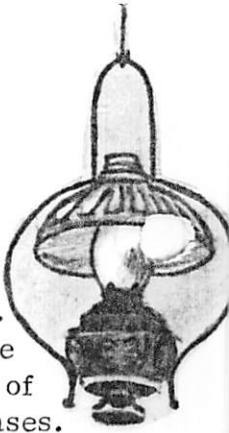


Information obtained from G. J.

THE VAN WAGONER STORE

"The Van Wagoner store was located where the Coleman Store is now. In those days the Mercantiles carried no packaged goods; everything came in bulk. If someone wanted a quarters worth of sugar, it was scooped up and put into one of the customer's own containers. Perhaps a customer had brought in a bucket of eggs to trade for groceries, then the bucket would be used to carry their purchases. Other items might be wrapped in newspaper since there were no paper bags. The clerks did all this, since the shelves were behind the counters and customers were not to help themselves as they do today. Bananas hung from a hook in the ceiling; meat also hung from hooks, but only on certain days of the week since there was no refrigeration. Whatever piece of meat the customer wanted was cut off as he waited."



Information obtained from HBM

"The building was built in 1906 by Wm. L. and John Van Wagoner, Bishop. It was owned and managed by these two brothers and their sisters, Nancy and Luella Van Wagoner clerked in the store. Later the store was bought by a group of townspeople, with Bishop Jacob Probst in charge. Pr. Parley Van Wagoner was manager for a time. Still later, Dean and Albert Van Wagoner, brothers of the original owners, started another grocery store and meat market. They operated for several years. Valorous Probst operated a market there for awhile. This part of the building is now included in the Coleman Store.

In April 1917, Guy Coleman bought his father's business. In 1922 Guy's brother, Henry S. bought the business and ran it for a year. Guy Coleman then repurchased the store from Henry. Today the store has been greatly enlarged and completely modernized. Guy's son Pete is a partner in the business which is known as Coleman's Store. It is a flourishing grocery store and up to date market."

